

Message Text

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TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: WEEKLY SUMMARY - SIXTH WEEK

TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO 57

1. SUMMARY. SIXTH WEEK OF ROUND IV INCLUDED FOUR WORKING GROUP MEETINGS AND THREE RESTRICTED MEETINGS. DISCUSSIONS IN RESTRICTED MEETINGS CENTERED AROUND FIVE ISSUES: (A) TIME OF PNE TREATY TO TTBT; (B) APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS TO PNES IN THIRD COUNTRIES; (C) VERIFICATION PROVISIONS IN PROTOCOLS; (D) SOVIET DOMESTIC LAW; (E) SOVIET ASSERTIONS THAT US VERIFICATION PROVISIONS SEEK UNWARRENTEED INFORMATION AND INTERFERENCE WITH PNE PROJECTS. SOVIETS PROPOSED THAT TREATY AND PROTOCOL INCLUDE ISSUES OF PRINCIPLE, WITH DETAILS HANDLED SEPARATELY, AND THAT JOINT COMMISSION BE ESTABLISHED. DISCUSSIONS IN WORKING GROUPS DIRECTED TO REACHING AGREEMENT AD REFERENDUM TO DELEGATIONS ON JOINT LANGUAGE IN TREATY AND PROTOCOLS WHERE POSSIBLE AND IDENTIFYING DIFFERENCES IN LANGUAGE, RESOLUTION OF WHICH MUST BE MADE BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. AT WORKING GROUP MEETINGS OCTOBER 13, COMPARISON TEXTS OF US AND SOVIET DRAFT ARTICLES OF TREATY AND PROTOCOLS WERE DISCUSSED, NUMBER OF INSUBSTANTIAL LANGUAGE CHANGES IN TREATY TEXT WERE DEVELOPED AD REFERENDUM. AT

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WORKING GROUP II MEETING US SIDE MADE LENGTHY EFFORT TO

GET SOVIET SIDE TO INDICATE SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS TO US DRAFT PROTOCOLS. US SIDE COMMENTED ON EACH ARTICLE OF PROTOCOL I, COMPARED US ARTICLES WITH EQUIVALENT SOVIET ARTICLE, AND POSED QUESTIONS TO SOVIET SIDE. SOVIET SIDE RESPONDED ONLY IN GENERAL TERMS, REITERATING THEIR POINTS OF PRINCIPLE. DISCUSSIONS ON PROTOCOL DETERMINED THAT FREEDOM OF ACCESS BY DESIGNATED PERSONNEL, OWNERSHIP AND USE OF EQUIPMENT BY DESIGNATED PERSONNEL AND, IN PARTICULAR, OWNERSHIP OF SLIFER EQUIPMENT REMAIN MAJOR DIFFERENCES.

3. 3. AT RESTRICTED MEETING, OCTOBER 14, US STRESSED NEED TO RESOLVE FIVE ISSUES: (A) TIES OF PNE TREATY TO TTBT; (B) APPLICATIONS OF PROVISIONS IN THIRD COUNTRIES; (C) VERIFICATION PROVISIONS IN PROTOCOLS; (D) RELEVANCE OF SOVIET DOMESTIC LAW; (E) SOVIET ASSERTIONS THAT US VERIFICATION PROVISIONS SEEK UNWARRANTED INFORMATION AND INTERFERENCE WITH PNE PROJECTS. SOVIETS CLAIMED ANY PNE AGREEMENT MUST SQUARE WITH EXISTING SOVIET DOMESTIC LAW, AND OBSERVER QUESTIONS MUST BE SOLVED THROUGH COOPERATION. SOVIETS ASSERTED US NOT ANSWERING QUESTIONS ABOUT US PROVISIONS. AD HOC WORKING GROUP FORMED TO DEVELOP PROCEDURAL APPROACH TO EXPLORE DIFFERENCES.

4. ADHOC WORKING GROUP MEETING OF OCTOBER 14, AGREED TO BREAK DOWN PROTOCOLS INTO INDIVIDUAL TOPICS TO MAKE WORKING GROUP II TASK MORE MANAGEABLE. SOVIETS WOULD NOT AGREE TO WORK ON CERTAIN ITEMS (MOSCOW 14771) COVERING IMPORTANT TOPICS WHERE ISSUES OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF EQUIPMENT AND OBSERVER RIGHTS REMAIN UNRESOLVED.

5. AT RESTRICTED MEETING OCTOBER 15, IT WAS AGREED THAT WORKING GROUP II WOULD MEET ON OCTOBER 16 TO DISCUSS: (A) DEFINITIONS IN TREATY AND PROTOCOLS; (B) INFORMATION EXCHANGE; AND (C) ON-SITE VERIFICATION INCLUDING SEISMIC AND SLIFER/DISCRETE EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES. SOVIETS GENERALLY REITERATED PAST POSITIONS ON MAJOR ISSUES ADDRESSED BY US (MOSCOW 14697) AT OCTOBER 14 MEETING. US REAFFIRMED BASIC POSITIONS ON NEED FOR ALL ESSENTIAL PROVISIONS, INCLUDING VERIFICATION, TO BE INCLUDED IN TEXT IN EXPLICIT AND BINDING TERMS.

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6. AT WORKING GROUP II MEETINGS, OCTOBER 16 AND 17, WORK WAS DIRECTED TOWARD REACHING AGREEMENT WHERE POSSIBLE ON COMMON LANGUAGE FOR ARTICLES IN PROTOCOLS, AD REFERENDUM TO DELEGATIONS, AND IDENTIFYING POINTS OF DISAGREEMENT THAT CANNOT BE RESOLVED IN WORKING GROUP II. COMMON LANGUAGE FOR INFORMATION EXCHANGE APPEARS RELATIVELY EASY TO ATTAIN.

7. AT RESTRICTED MEETING OCTOBER 16, STOESEL NOTED PROGRESS BEING MADE BY EXPERTS. IT WAS AGREED THAT MEETINGS OF EXPERTS AND RESTRICTED MEETINGS SHOULD CONTINUE UNTIL ALL POSSIBLE AGREEMENTS COULD BE ACHIEVED. MOROKHOV SUGGESTED INCLUDING MAIN PRINCIPLES IN TREATY AND PROTOCOL, WITH DETAILS HANDLED SEPARATELY AND JOINT COMMISSION WHICH COULD BE NATIONAL OR DEPARTMENTAL. THIS COMMISSION, ACCORDING TO MOROKHOV, COULD HANDLE MATTERS OF BOTH COMPLIANCE AND COOPERATION. STOESEL REAFFIRMED US WILLINGNESS TO BE FLEXIBLE BUT STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT ESSENTIAL PROVISIONS, INCLUDING "DETAILS", MUST BE AGREED UPON BEFORE QUESTION OF FORM COULD BE CONSIDERED.

8. SOVIETS HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO HAVE SOVIET YIELD VERIFICATION EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR US DELEGATION INSPECTION ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, ACCOMPANIED BY EXPERTS FOR DISCUSSION. THIS MAY BE INTENDED TO INITIATE DISCUSSION OF JOINT EQUIPMENT DESIGN, WHICH HAS BEEN SUBJECT OF SOVIET REMARKS SEVERAL TIMES THIS WEEK.
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